



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

October 25, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents and
Public School Academy Directors

FROM: Sally Vaughn, Ph.D. *Sally*
Deputy Superintendent/Chief Academic Officer

SUBJECT: Request for Comment on the Michigan Department of Education
Request to Waive the Period of Availability of Fiscal Year (FY) 2010
1003(g) School Improvement Grant (SIG) Funds

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is requesting a waiver to extend the period of availability of FY 2010 School Improvement Grants (SIG) under section 2003(g) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). Under section 421(b) of the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) (the "Tydings Amendment"), FY 2010 SIG funds must be obligated by September 30, 2012. These funds remain unobligated for various reasons. The primary reason being that school districts had only one year to expend the funds; as a result, the MDE is facing the possibility of lapsing FY 2010 SIG funds. The MDE would like to be able to grant the districts an additional year to expend the funds to increase the quality of instruction and academic performance.

Therefore, I am requesting, on behalf of the MDE, a waiver of section 421(b) of GEPA for the unexpended portion of the MDE's FY 2010 1003(g) funds. Specifically, I am seeking this waiver to extend the period of availability for the FY 2010 1003(g) funds for an additional 12 months until September 30, 2013. Please see the attached request to the United States Department of Education.

The waiver request may be accessed online at www.michigan.gov/mde under "Current Topics." Districts wishing to comment on the request should submit comments to Jill Thompson at ThompsonJ17@michigan.gov by November 2, 2012.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

Attachment

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October 25, 2012

Dr. Deb Delisle
Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education
Office of Secondary and Elementary Education
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue SW
Washington, D.C. 20202

RE: Michigan Department of Education Request to Waive the Period of Availability
of Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 1003(g) School Improvement Grant (SIG) Funds

Dear Dr. Delisle:

I am writing with regard to Michigan's FY 2010 funds under section 1003(g) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). Under section 421(b) of the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) (the "Tydings Amendment"), FY 2010 1003(g) funds must be obligated by September 30, 2012. Currently, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) has \$7,490,835.00 in unobligated FY 2010 1003(g) funds. These funds remain unobligated for various reasons. The primary reason being is that school districts had only one year to expend the funds and as a result, the MDE faces the possibility of lapsing FY 2010 1003(g) funds. The MDE would like to grant districts an additional year to expend the funds to increase the quality of instruction and academic performance.

Therefore, I am requesting, on behalf of the MDE, a waiver of section 421(b) of GEPA for the unexpended portion of the FY 2010 1003(g) funds. Specifically, I am seeking this waiver to extend the period of availability for the FY 2010 1003(g) funds for an additional 12 months until September 30, 2013.

The MDE assures that all districts have been notified and have had a reasonable opportunity to comment on this request. The MDE will provide such notice by sending a letter to all (Local Education Agencies) LEAs on October 26, 2012. To expedite this waiver request, the MDE will submit copies of any comments it receives from districts after the comment period closes on November 2, 2012.

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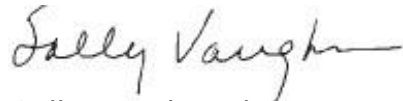
Dr. Deb Delisle
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The MDE has also provided notice and information regarding this waiver request to the public in the manner in which it customarily provides such notice and information to the public by posting to the state website. The MDE will submit any comments it receives to the United States Department of Education within 5 days of the closing of the comment period on this waiver.

To ensure that funds are obligated and expended in a timely manner, the MDE will work closely with districts to be certain that the funds are expended prior to the end of the grant period in a manner designed to increase the quality of instruction and the academic performance of students.

Please feel free to contact Linda Forward by phone, 517-241-3147, or e-mail, forwardl@michigan.gov, if you have questions regarding this request. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sally Vaughn".

Sally Vaughn, Ph.D.
Deputy Superintendent/Chief Academic Officer